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VIA UPS NEXT DAY AIR

Vernon A. Williams
Surface Transportation Board
1925 "K" Street, N.W., Room 504
Washington, DC 20423-0001

**RE: Proposed Abandonment of an Eastern Portion of the Bristow Subdivision
from M.P. 318.36 near Hampton to the end of the Line at M.P. 294.75 at
Allison, a distance of 23.61 miles in Franklin and Butler Counties, Iowa;
STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 200X)**

Dear Mr. Williams:

Union Pacific Railroad Company ("Union Pacific") has received a request from the Iowa Trails Council dated March 16, 2005 for a 180 day extension in which to complete negotiations for the acquisition under the provisions 16 U.S.C. § 1247(d) and 49 C.F.R. § 1152.29 regarding that portion of the Union Pacific's right-of-way known as the Eastern Portion of the Bristow Subdivision from Milepost 318.36 near Hampton, Iowa to the end of the Line at Milepost 294.75 at Allison, Iowa, a distance of 23.61 miles in Franklin and Butler Counties, Iowa. The Union Pacific is willing to continue negotiating with the Iowa Trails Council concerning the acquisition of the subject property for trail use and supports the Council's request for a 180 day extension in which to negotiate. A copy of the Iowa Trails Council's request is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and hereby made a part hereof.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter with exhibits are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mack H. Shumate, Jr.".

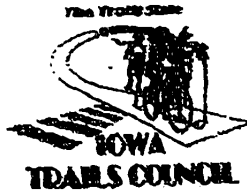
Enclosures

cc: Iowa Trails Council

Mack H. Shumate, Jr.
Senior General Attorney, Law Department

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UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD
101 N. Wacker Dr., Rm. 1920, Chicago, IL 60606-1718
ph. (312) 777-2055 fx. (312) 777-2065



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March 16, 2005

Mr. Vernon Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K St NW
Washington, D. C., 20423-0001

Re. AB 33 (Sub No. 200X)

Dear Secretary Williams:

This is a request that we be given another 180 days in which to complete negotiations for the acquisition of the soon to be abandoned Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way between Hampton and Bristow in Iowa counties Butler and Franklin. We are hoping that the Union Pacific will be agreeable to our offer within that 180 day period of time.

We are sending the original request via FAX and forwarding ten copies of this request via regular United States mail. Your consideration in this matter will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Tom F. Neenan

Affiliates: American Discovery Trail Society-American Hiking Society-Rails/Trails Conservancy

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